

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1448

To provide for the construction of the Yupik Alaskan/Central Kuskokwim Energy Project, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 23 (legislative day, JULY 21), 2003

Ms. MURKOWSKI introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To provide for the construction of the Yupik Alaskan/Central Kuskokwim Energy Project, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Calista Energy and
5 Economic Revitalization Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Yupik Eskimo people have—

9 (A) inhabited the Upper Kuskokwim re-

10 gion for thousands of years; and

1 (B) developed a unique lifestyle that allows
2 the people to thrive in a harsh and formidable
3 climate;

4 (2) on December 18, 1971, Congress enacted
5 the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C.
6 1601 et seq.) in recognition and settlement of the
7 aboriginal claims of the Yupik Eskimo people in the
8 Upper Kuskokwim regions;

9 (3) under that Act—

10 (A) the Calista Regional Corporation was
11 formed by the Yupik Eskimo people to rep-
12 resent the needs and interests of the Yupik Es-
13 kimo people in implementing the Act; and

14 (B) the Corporation has selected as part of
15 the land entitlement the Donlin Creek area of
16 the Upper Kuskokwim region;

17 (4) as owner of the Donlin Creek area, Calista
18 Regional Corporation has made a discovery of inter-
19 national significance of gold and other minerals that
20 would aid the Yupik Eskimo people if developed;

21 (5) there is widespread support among the local
22 Yupik population for development of the Donlin
23 Creek area;

1 (6) the Donlin Creek area is currently isolated
2 and unconnected by road or utility services to the
3 rest of the State of Alaska;

4 (7) the Upper Kuskokwim region contains
5 many Yupik Eskimo villages that are not connected
6 to the rest of the State of Alaska;

7 (8) the unemployment rate in the region is al-
8 most 25 percent, and there is currently little or no
9 opportunity for year-round nongovernmental employ-
10 ment;

11 (9) it is fair and equitable that Congress enact
12 legislation to aid and assist the Yupik Eskimo peo-
13 ple, through the Calista Regional Corporation, in
14 providing reasonable and adequate utility services to
15 the area; and

16 (10) Congress should act to provide a sound
17 economic opportunity for the Yupik Eskimo and
18 other residents of the region to enjoy an improved
19 quality of life by providing a year round employment
20 base.

21 **SEC. 3. CALISTA ENERGY PROJECT AUTHORIZATION.**

22 (a) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of En-
23 ergy shall, subject to any terms and conditions that the
24 Secretary determines to be appropriate, provide the
25 Calista Regional Corporation grants and loan guarantees

1 to assist in the construction of the Calista Energy Project
2 as generally identified in the document entitled “Calista
3 Region Energy Needs Study” and dated July 1, 2002.

4 (b) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost
5 of construction of the Calista Energy Project shall be not
6 more than 80 percent.

7 (c) LIMITATION.—The total amount of financial as-
8 sistance that the Secretary may provide under subsection
9 (a) is—

10 (1) \$100,000,000 for grants; and

11 (2) \$50,000,000 for loan guarantees.

12 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
14 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

○